

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims, as follows (a marked-up copy of the claim amendments is provided in the Appendix attached to this Amendment):

8. (Amended) Creep-proof and corrosion-resistant nickel-based alloy comprising, in wt-

31 %:

0.0015 to 0.60 carbon (C);

0.20 to 0.90 nitrogen (N);

28 22.0 to 32.0 chromium (Cr);

5.0 to 20.0 elements of the groups 4, 5, and 6 of the periodic table, except Cr;

0.03 to 3.0 aluminum (Al);

0.4 to 3.0 silicon (Si);

maximum of 0.014 phosphorus (P);

maximum of 0.004 sulfur (S);

minimum of 51 of nickel (Ni) or a combination of nickel (Ni) and cobalt (Co); and

melting-related contaminants.

Please add claims 33-38, as follows:

32 ---33. Creep-proof and corrosion-resistant nickel-based alloy consisting essentially of, in

wt-%:

0.0015 to 0.60 carbon (C);

0.20 to 0.90 nitrogen (N);

22.0 to 32.0 chromium (Cr);
5.0 to 20.0 elements of the groups 4, 5, and 6 of the periodic table, except Cr;
0.03 to 3.0 aluminum (Al);
0.4 to 3.0 silicon (Si);
maximum of 0.014 phosphorus (P);
maximum of 0.004 sulfur (S);
up to 0.15 of at least one element of Group 3 of the periodic table, except actinoids;
up to 0.60 manganese (Mn);
up to 14.8 iron (Fe);
up to 0.01 (B);
minimum of 51 of nickel (Ni) or a combination of nickel (Ni) and cobalt (Co); and
melting-related contaminants.

34. Nickel-based alloy according to claim 33, comprising a total concentration of molybdenum (Mo) and tungsten (W), in wt-%, according to the following formula:

$$\text{Mo} + \text{W}/2 = 3.0 \text{ to } 10.0.$$

35. Nickel based-alloy according to claim 33, comprising at least one element of Group 3 of the periodic table, except actinoids, said at least one element being present up to 0.15 wt-%; comprising manganese (Mn), said Mn being present up to 0.60 wt-%; comprising iron (Fe), said Fe being present up to 14.8 wt-%; and comprising boron (B), said B being present up to 0.01 wt-%.

32

36. Nickel based-alloy according to claim 33, comprising at least one element of Group 3 of the periodic table, except actinoids, said at least one element being present up to 0.15 wt-%; comprising manganese (Mn), said Mn being present up to 0.60 wt-%; and comprising boron (B), said B being present up to 0.01 wt-%.

37. Nickel based-alloy according to claim 33, comprising manganese (Mn), said Mn being present up to 0.60 wt-%; and comprising boron (B), said B being present up to 0.01 wt-%.

38. Nickel based-alloy according to claim 33, comprising iron (Fe), said Fe being present up to 14.8 wt-%; and comprising boron (B), said B being present up to 0.01 wt-%.---

REMARKS

Upon entry of the instant amendment, claim 8 will be amended, and claims 33-38 will be added, whereby claims 8-38 will be pending. Claims 8 and 33 are independent claims.

Claims 33-38 have been added to further define Applicants' invention by being directed to embodiments wherein the nickel-base alloy consists essentially of the recited components.

Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Response to Formal Matters

Applicants express appreciation for the acknowledgment of the claim of priority as well as receipt of the certified copy of the priority application.